J J Terrell

BY J. L. PENNINGTON & CO.

THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. VI. RALEIGH, SATURDAY, FEB. 18, 1865. NO. 85

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The following are the only terms of subscription to the DAILY and WEEKLY PROGRESS:

Daily paper,	1 month	$10 00
"	3 months	30 00
"	6 months	[illegible]
Weekly paper,	3 months	10 00
"	6 months	20 00

Always to be paid in advance, and paper stopped when the time paid for expires.

JOB PRINTING.—Having a Job Office equal to any in the City or State, we are prepared to execute all orders for Book and Job Printing with neatness and dispatch.

ADVERTISING RATES.

The following rates will be charged for all advertisements inserted in the *Daily and Weekly Progress*: one square or eight lines.

One day	[illegible]	One week	[illegible]
Two days	[illegible]	Two weeks	[illegible]
Three days	15 00	Three weeks	[illegible]
Four days	20 00	One month	120 00
Five days	25 00	Two months	240 00

Fifty words, or eight lines or less, count a square, and additional squares will be charged the same. Advertisements inserted once, twice or three times a week will be charged $5 a square for every insertion.

When sent by letter, the money must accompany the advertisement. Marriages, Deaths, Religious and other Notices charged as advertisements, and must be paid in advance.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.]

Later from the North.

RICHMOND, Feb. 16.—Northern papers of the 14th (including the evening edition of the "American") received.

Much of their space is devoted to the proceedings and speeches of the great war meeting at Richmond.

In the House of Representatives Mr. Dawson offered a resolution requesting the President to use all honorable means to bring about peace, with every proper guarantee which shall protect the Southern States in the enjoyment of their rights. Laid on the table—Yeas 79, nays 62.

Mr. Williams offered a series of resolutions declaring that it would be inconsistent with honor and dignity to offer further inducements to the rebels; also tabled—Yeas 81, noes 52.

Senator Morgan was nominated as the successor of Mr. Fessenden, but the nomination was withdrawn.

A Cairo telegram, 9th, says the immense fleet that went up the Tennessee river has reached there crowded with troops and material. It numbered fifty-six steamers. Gen. A. J. Smith's forces are on board, bound down the Mississippi river.

Twenty-one vessels, loaded with cotton from Savannah, arrived at New York on the 14th.

Gold 208.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, Feb. 16.—The exemption bill was recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The Senate bill to provide for the reorganization of the army was taken up, when Mr. Johnston, of Georgia, moved to transfer the bill to the secret calendar, pending which the Senate resolved into secret session.

The House passed several Senate bills, including a bill to provide for the remission of the penalty for non-delivery of tithes of bacon due 1864, and a bill exempting maple sugar from tithes.

The bill from a special committee providing for the employment of negro troops was taken up, when, upon motion, the House resolved into secret session—Yeas 52, nays 35.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, Feb. 16.—Gen. Lee's official order No. 1, assuming command of the Confederate army, contains the following passage: "Deeply impressed with the difficulties and responsibilities of the position, and humbly invoking the guidance of Almighty God, I rely for success upon the courage and fortitude of the army, sustained by the patriotism and firmness of the people, confident that their united efforts, under the blessing of Heaven, will secure peace and independence.

War Meeting in Fayetteville.

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., Feb. 16.—A large and enthusiastic war meeting was held here to-day. A large number of ladies were present. Able and patriotic speeches were made by a number of gentlemen. After setting forth in the preamble the failure of the Peace Conference and the terms on which Lincoln proposed peace, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the terms offered to the people of the Confederate States are such as cannot be accepted, and are regarded as conditions which an insolent and malignant conqueror might impose upon a down-trodden and subjugated nation.

Resolved, That with the contemptuous reply by the Federal Government, of the efforts and offers of the Government of the Confederate States to treat for peace upon terms compatible with the honor and dignity of the latter, there is no alternative now left but universal and ruinous submission on the one side, or a struggle to the death, if need be, for honor and independence on the other.

Resolved, That with this alternative presented the citizens who are here assembled do not hesitate to declare their choice, and now, in view of greater sacrifices yet to be made, of heavy burdens yet to be borne, they will bear all with patience and steady endurance to vindicate the high principles involved in this struggle, and feeling that their cause is right and that the success of that cause is connected with the best hopes and with the highest happiness of themselves and their posterity, they pledge to each other life, fortune and sacred honor in this holy cause.

NEGRO AUCTION AND Commission HOUSE!

ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY NEXT, AT the house immediately in front of the Post Office, formerly occupied as the Progress office, on Fayetteville Street, in the City of Raleigh, the subscribers will establish an

Auction and Commission House

For the Sale of SLAVES.

We have provided safe and comfortable quarters, and will be as moderate in our charges for board, &c., as the times will permit.

With an experience of twenty years in the trade, and the advantages of an extensive acquaintance, we flatter ourselves that we understand the business, and, with the assurance of quick sales and prompt returns, respectfully solicit public patronage.

Dec 13-3tf WM. F. ASKEW & CO.

COUNTY TRUSTEE.

WE ARE REQUESTED TO ANNOUNCE LYNN ADAMS, Esq., as a Candidate for the office of County Trustee for Wake county.

If elected he will endeavor to attend faithfully to the duties of the office. Feb 7-td

☞ Business Notice.—The expenses attending the publication of the PROGRESS are enormous and have to be paid promptly, and we must do a cash business or none at all. We must demand cash from all save those business men of the city who have accounts with the office, and parties at a distance are expected to remit promptly when bills are sent. We have no time to collect bills and don't want to make any charges. There never was a better time to pay debts than the present, and all who owe us are requested and expected to pay at once.

LOCAL AND STATE NEWS.

GO FROM HOME TO HEAR NEWS.—We saw several gentlemen in our city yesterday enquiring at what hour Vice-President Stephens was to speak. These gentlemen were from the country, where, they said, it was currently reported that a great war meeting was to be held in Raleigh yesterday, which Mr. Stephens was to address. In Raleigh we had heard nothing of it. Mr. Stephens is reported to have gone to Georgia some days ago. If any war meeting was held here yesterday it must have been on the "red string" order.

The weather for the last few days has given us that "variety" which is said to be "the spice of life." It has given us the smile of its sunshine, the tears of its clouds, and the pearls of its ice. It has been as crabbed as an old batchelor, and as coy as a young maiden. The "Wind as a Musician" has sung through our halls, and "As an Avenger" has roared through the tree-tops and over the roofs of our houses, singing, we hope the funeral dirge of Winter. The Local predicts an early spring, early vegetables, and an early peace. "Mark the prediction."

We trust we have not offended the punning editor of the Fayetteville *Telegraph*. Our allusion to his "greens" he seems to have considered seriously—as containing more truth than poetry. We *did* get two cabbage heads, and we mentally thought, "When shall we three meet again," but did not just at that moment think of the editor of the *Telegraph*, and for such thoughtlessness we hereby beg his pardon.

He advises us to take that "stray baby" to ourself. Thank you, sir; since this war commenced we have been supporting "home manufactures," and at the present time we have enough of that article on hand. We want no "foreign aid," and we expect no foreign "recognition."

If he prefers a "*Liceum*," (Lyceum) to brains, we have no objection except that of *living* with him.

"WASTE OF PAPER."—The *Conservative* and the *Southern Field and Fireside* have got into a little controversy concerning the "waste of paper." The *Conservative* thinks that it was "a waste of paper" to publish "Castine," and the *Field and Fireside* thinks it is "a waste of paper" to print the *Conservative*. We have no idea of engaging in the quarrel, and to preclude all possibility of being dragged into it, we hereby announce that we cordially agree with both parties.

COUNTY COURT.—The worshipful Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, for the County of Wake, will be held next week. Quite a number of newly appointed Magistrates will be qualified. A county Trustee and a county Commissioner are to be elected, and there are plenty of worthy candidates for both offices. Other county business will also be transacted, of all which we shall endeavor to give a correct report.

HOG LAW.—Without the fear of the ordinance of the city fathers before their eyes, and instigated by the unpatriotic desire to eat something, if rooting can find it, numerous pigs are going the depths of their noses about town, whenever the old ice-king relaxes his grasp upon the earth so as to allow them to do so.

With the issue of this week the Hillsboro *Recorder* enters upon the 46th year. May the venerable Mr. Heartt, the founder and present Editor of the *Recorder* be spared many years yet to continue his usefulness in a fraternity of which he is the oldest member in the State.

WILMINGTON MARKET.—Bacon sells from carts at $7 to $9; butter $12 to $14; corn meal $40 per bushel; eggs $5 to $6; flour $750 to $800 per barrel; lard $8 to $9; sweet potatoes $40 to $50 per bushel; fresh pork $5 to $6 per pound.

The Fayetteville *Telegraph* says that the impression now prevails that the recent fires in that town were the work of an incendiary.

LAWLESSNESS IN ROBESON COUNTY.—The Wilmington *Carolinian* of Wednesday says:

In the county of Robeson, two citizens were murdered by assassins, and two more shot and crippled for life, (if they ever do recover from their wounds,) within the last eight weeks. Pillage and robbery are rife in the county; are of nightly occurrence by the hands of these men. The widows and orphans, the wives and children of our dead and living soldiers, are rendered destitute by having their little all taken from them, and if they remonstrate or resist, are fired at. Some of these characters are deserters form our own army, and some, we understand, escaped Yankee prisoners, who have consorted with our free negro population, for the purpose of plundering our people. A few nights since, the Court-house in Lumberton, the county seat, where the enrolling officer keeps his office, was entered, and several hundred of rounds of cartridges, with all the fire-arms which it contained stolen. Such is the reign of terror that prevails, that our best and bravest citizens are afraid to be found performing their duty to their country, because of the fate that threatens them if found any distance from their residences. We have conversed with one of our leading magistrates, at the county seat of Robeson, and enquired why the proper representation of this state of affairs were not made at Raleigh, either by petition or otherwise, when he replied that he had petitioned and remonstrated, until he was ashamed to do so any more, as he received no satisfaction. Now, we feel confident that there is some misapprehension somewhere, and we take this method of calling on our authorities to take some early and prompt action to capture these miscreants, who are only brave in shooting persons from behind their hiding places. They can shoot down and murder old and helpless men, when concealed themselves, but they dare not shoot the enemies of their country, at the front. The mawkish, misplaced clemency which has been extended to these criminals in the past has emboldened them to go on in iniquity until they have become a terror to the well-disposed. We earnestly plead, therefore, with our authorities, to take more decided steps in the future with these men. Stern retribution, now and at once, meted out to these robbers and murderers, will eventually turn out to be the greatest clemency, not only to the citizens but to the criminals themselves.

THE FORT FISHER PRISONERS.—The Wilmington *Carolinian* of the 15th says:

A friend in town is in receipt of a letter, just received by flag of truce, from his son at the North, who was captured at the fall of Fort Fisher.

It appears that our gallant boys are all in Fort Columbus, on Governor's Island, in New York harbor. They are comfortable and well treated. Fifty prisoners are assigned together in one room. Gen. Whiting is with the boys in Fort Columbus and is slowly recovering from his wounds. Col. Lamb, whose wounds it would seem were of a severe nature, was left in hospital at Fortress Monroe. Our friend has our thanks, and no doubt the thanks of many anxious parents and relations of the brave captives who languish in a foreign land, for this timely information.

THE PIEDMONT ROAD.—The Danville *Register* of the 14th says:

The community will be gratified to learn that the Piedmont Railroad is now doing much better service than formerly. Some of the more serious difficulties which were in the way of the running of the trains with promptness and regularity, have been partially overcome and we may confidently look for still further improvements. The country is scarcely aware of the obstacles the management of the road have to contend with.

It is hardly proper for us to allude here to the amount of business now done upon the line in the way of transportation, &c.

We learn that Gov. Vance is to address a war meeting in Goldsboro to-day. We trust "his Excellency" will tell the joke which occurs in his Wilkesboro speech, about Major Smith and his old 'oman, and such others of a thrilling character as may occur to his mind, for it will require remarkable eloquence to get the secessionists about Goldsboro into the trenches. If he can rally them, however, he will do good service, for there are enough of them in the bomb-proofs about that town to raise a respectable battalion. We hope some friend will send us a list of the volunteers obtained on the interesting occasion.

Where are all the men that attended that large meeting in Columbia, some time ago, which instructed Mr. Boyce to resign his seat in Congress on account of his peace views?—Are they in the trenches resisting the advance of the enemy, or have they scattered and fled for safety? We should like to have an honest answer to these questions.

A Call to Prayer.

We were once a happy and great people. In our prosperity we forgot God and plunged ourselves into great and abominable sins; therefore He permitted this horrid war to come upon us. The God of nations alone can deliver us from it. But He will not save us until, as a people, we humble ourselves before Him and cry for help. *Let all the people lay this truth to heart.* I propose, therefore, that all Christians in the Confederate States shall meet at a Throne of Grace, at some hour in every day, say between 12 m and 2 p m, and there bring our cause before Him who hath said, "Call upon Me in the day of trouble and I will deliver thee." I respectfully ask that this notice be copied into every newspaper in the Confederate States, and beg the Editors of the same to impress the proposition upon the minds of their readers.

CHRISTIAN.

Wilmington, N C, Feb 14th, 1865.

Feb 17-d1w

FOR RENT

A FINE STORE HOUSE, ON FAYETTEVILLE St. with dwelling above, side passage, and all admirably arranged, for rent for the balance of the year.

Feb 16-tf Apply to C M FARRISS.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

WE ARE REQUESTED TO ANNOUNCE CAPT. F H PERRY a candidate for County Commissioner for the County of Wake. Feb 16-4t

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE JOHN W. MITCHELL a candidate for Superior Court Clerk of Granville County at the ensuing election in August next. Feb 2-d3w8*

W. H. RICHARDSON & CO.,

BROKERS AND STOCK AUCTIONEERS,

RESPECTFULLY SOLICIT CONSIGNMENTS.

Oct 20. RALEIGH, N. C.

☞ Rags Wanted.—Forty cents a pound will be paid for all clean cotton or linen rags delivered at the Progress office.

SCHEDULE OF PRICES FOR NORTH CAROLINA.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF APPRAISEMENT FOR the State of North Carolina present their Schedule of Prices to govern Impressing Agents for the next sixty days, with rates considerably advanced in consequence of the advance by order of the government in the prices paid above those of the late schedule. They earnestly hope that there now being no excuse for holding back the products so necessary to the supply of the army, that farmers and others will come forward with alacrity and offer all that they can possibly from their own consumption to the aid of that army, which is now at last to be recognized as our only deliverer from the unrestrained and grasping despotism of our barbarous enemy:

Apples,	dried, peeled, per bush. 28 lbs	$10 00
do	unpeeled, per bush 28 lbs	7 50
Axes,	with handles, each,	16 50
do	without handles, each,	13 00
Bacon,	per pound, hog round,	4 00
Beans,	white or cornfield, per bush 60 pounds,	16 50
Brandy,	apple, per gallon,	10 00
do	peach, per gallon,	10 00
Beef,	fresh, nett per pound,	2 00
do	fresh, gross, per pound,	1 00
do	salted, per pound,	2 50
Candles,	tallow, per pound,	5 00
do	adamantine, per pound,	10 00
Chains,	trace, per pair,	10 00
Cloth,	woolen for soldiers clothes, 3-4 yard wide, 10 oz. to yard, and pro rata as to greater or less weight or width, per yard,	15 00
Cotton,	raw, per lb,	2 50
Coffee,	Rio, per pound,	12 50
Corn,	unshelled, per bush. 70 lbs.,	12 00
Corn Meal,	sacks not included, per bush of 50 pounds,	12 80
Drills,	cotton, 7-8 yd wide, 3 yards to pound, per yd,	2 80
Flour,	extra family, per bbl 196 lbs,	100 00
"	extra superfine, per bbl 196 lbs,	90 00
"	superfine, per bbl 196 lbs,	80 00
"	fine, per barrel of 196 lbs,	70 00
Fodder,	baled, per 100 pounds,	8 00
	unbaled, per 100 pounds,	7 50
Hats,	wool, each,	8 00
Hay,	baled, per 100 pounds,	8 00
"	unbaled, per 100 pounds,	7 50
Hides,	dry, extra, per pound,	5 00
Hides,	[illegible]	6 00
do	green, per pound,	2 50
Horses,	artillery, 1st class, per head,	1,500 00
do	artillery, 2d class, per head,	1200 00
House rent	per room per month	40 00
Iron,	Pig, No 1, per ton, 2,000 lbs	350 00
do	Pig, No 2, per ton, 2,000 lbs	314 00
do do	Pig, No 3, per ton, 2,000 lbs	278 00
do do	Bloom, per ton, 2,000 lbs	710 00
do	Smith's square or round per ton of 2,000 lbs	1,020 00
do	serviceable railroad, per ton of 2,240 pounds	400 00
Jeans,	wool, domestic, per yard	15 00
Kettles,	camp, iron, per pound,	60
Lumber,	good, per 1,000 feet	60 00
Lard,	per pound	3 00
Leather,	sole, per pound	10 00
do	upper, per pound	12 00
do	harness, per pound	12 00
Molasses,	sorghum, per gallon	15 00
Mules,	1st class, per head,	1,500 00
do	2d class, per head	1200 00
do	3d class, per head	800 00
Mechanics,	1st class, per day, rations by government,	10 00
	2d class, per day, rations by government,	6 00
Nails,	per keg	200 00
Oats,	sheaf, baled, per 100 lbs	10 00
do	sheaf, unbaled, per 100 lbs	9 25
do	shelled, per bushel	8 00
Osnaburgs,	cotton, 3-4 yard wide, 7 oz to yard, per yard,	3 50
do	cotton, 7-8 yard wide, 8 oz to yard, per yard,	3 75
Onions,	per bushel,	12 00
Oxen,	work, 1st quality, per yoke	1500 00
do	2d quality, per yoke	1000 00
Peas,	cow, per bush of 60 lbs	15 00
Potatoes,	Irish, per bush of 60 lbs	8 00
do	sweet, per bush of 60 lbs	8 00
Peach's dried,	per bush of 38 lbs	12 50
do	unpeeled, per bush of 38 lbs	10 00
Pork,	fresh, nett, per pound,	3 50
do	salted, per pound,	3 50
do	gross,	2 00
Pasturage,	1st quality, near town, per head, per month,	8 00
do	common, near town, per month,	5 00
do	1st quality, in the country, per head, per month,	7 00
do	common, in country, per head, per month,	4 00
Quinine,	good, per ounce,	60 00
Rice,	new, per pound,	1 50
do	old, per pound,	1 10
Rye,	good, per bush of 56 lbs,	12 00
Rosin,	per bbl of 280 lbs	2 00
do	in bulk of 280 lbs	50
Sacks,	two bushels, osnaburgs, each,	6 00
Shirting,	cotton, 3-4 yard wide, 4¼ yards to pound, per yard,	1 75
do	cotton, 7-8 yard wide, 3¾ yard to pound, per yard,	1 10
Cotton strips,	3 yards to pound, pr yd	2 75
Salt,	Coast, per bush of 50 lbs,	40 00
do	Liverpool, per bush of 50 lbs,	50 00
do	Virginia, per bush of 50 lbs,	45 00
Steel,	cast, per pound,	10 00
Shoes,	army, per pair,	35 00
Shoe thread,	flax, per pound,	10 00
Socks,	soldier's wool, per pair,	4 00
Sheep,	fat, per head,	50 00
Sugar,	brown common, per lb,	5 00
Soap,	hard, per pound,	2 00
do	soft, per pound,	1 25
Shucks,	baled, 100 lbs,	3 00
Shorts,	good, per bush of 23 lbs,	1 75
Ship stuff,	good per bush of 37 lbs,	2 40
Tea,	black, per pound,	10 00
do	green, per pound,	18 00
Tent cloth,	cotton, 10 oz. to yd, per yard,	7 50
Tobacco,	No 1, extra,	3 00
do	No 1,	2 50
do	No 2,	1 75
do	Lugs,	1 25
Tallow,	clean, per pound,	4 50
Vinegar,	cider, per gallon,	4 00
do	manufactured, per gal	3 00
Whiskey,	good, per gallon	10 00
Wheat,	good, per bush of 60 lbs	15 00
	bran, per bush of 17 lbs	1 50
Wheat straw,	baled, per 100 lbs	3 75
do do	unbaled, per 100 lbs	3 00
Wool,	washed, per pound	17 00
do	unwashed, per pound	10 00
Wagons,	wood axle, 4 horse, new, each	700 00
"	wood axle, 2 horse, new each	500 00
Yarn,	cotton, per bunch of 5 lbs	15 00

HIRE OF LABOR, TEAMS, WAGONS AND HORSES.

Baling long forage, per hundred pounds	1 00
Shelling and bagging corn, sacks furnished by government, per bushel,	25
Hire of two horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day,	18 00
Hire of two horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day	12 00
Hire of four horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day,	30 00
Hire of four horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by the government, per day	20 00
Hire of six horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by owner, per day	36 00
Hire of six horse teams, wagon and driver, rations furnished by government, per day	24 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner, per day	6 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by government, per day	4 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by owner,	110 00
Hire of laborer, rations furnished by government, per month	65 00
Hire of horse, per day	4 00

The Commissioners respectfully suggest that if it be found practical, the producer should be allowed to retain a [illegible] part of their surplus, to be sold at market prices, to pay for their necessary plantation supplies, which they have to purchase at high market prices. [illegible] earnestly call upon the farmers to bring forward [illegible] own now so necessary to the support of the army [illegible] immediate front, and which alone will prevent the [illegible] to the enemy, of all their crops, [illegible]. The commissioners would also [illegible] impressment should be universal and [illegible] no one.

For the information of all persons concerned, we [illegible] that the following instructions [illegible] with the hope that they will be strictly observed.

"No officer or agent shall impress the necessary supplies which any person may have for the consumption of himself, his family, employees, slaves, or to carry on his ordinary mechanical, manufacturing or agricultural employments."

The next meeting of the Board will be held in the Senate Chamber, in the City of Raleigh, on Monday, the 3d day of April next, unless sooner changed. Impressing agents must furnish good and satisfactory reasons for disapprovals on appeals, or the award of local appraisers will be [illegible]. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary of the Board, Raleigh, N C.

(Signed) H. K. BURGWYN

Garysburg, N. C.

R. V. BLACKSTOCK,

Stocksville, N. C.

Com's Appraisement for State of N. C.

Raleigh, Feb 16-6t

Headquarters Reserve, North Carolina,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Raleigh, February 13th, 1865.

GENERAL ORDER,
No 3.

I. ENROLING OFFICERS IN THE STATE OF North Carolina will make diligent enquiry in their respective counties for the arms, &c., called for in Gen. Lee's appeal of January 25, 1865.

They are required to receive all arms brought forward under this appeal, and restoring them to Capt. A. W. Lawrence, an Ordnance officer Reserve, N. C.

By command of Lt. Gen'l HOLMES:

JOHN W. HINSDALE,
Asst. Adj. General.

HEADQ'RS ARMY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA,
January 25, 1865.

TO arm and equip an additional force of cavalry, there is need of carbines, revolvers, pistols, saddles, and other accoutrements of mounted men. Arms and equipments of the kind desired are believed to be held by citizens in sufficient numbers to supply our wants. Many keep them as trophies, and some with the expectation of using them in their own defence. But it should be remembered that arms are now required for use, and that they cannot be made so effectual for the defence of the country in any way, as in the hands of organized troops. They are needed to enable our cavalry to cope with the well armed and equiped cavalry of the enemy, not only in the general service, but in resisting those predatory expeditions which have inflicted so much loss upon the people of the interior.

To the patriotic I need make no other appeal than the wants of the service; but I beg to remind those who are reluctant to part with the arms and equipments in their possession, that by keeping them they diminish the ability of the army to defend their property, without themselves deriving any benefit from them. I therefore urge all persons not in the service to deliver promptly, to some of the officers designated below, such arms and equipments (especially those suitable for cavalry) as they may have, and to report to those officers the names of such persons as neglect to surrender those in their possession.

Every citizen who prevents a carbine or pistol from remaining unused, will render a service to his country. Those who think to retain arms for their defence, should remember that if the army cannot protect them, the arms will be of little use. While no valid title can be acquired to public arms and equipments except from the Government, it is reported that many persons have ignorantly purchased them from private parties. A full compensation will, therefore, be made to all who deliver such arms and equipments to any ordnance officers, officer commanding at a post, officers and agents of the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments at any station, or officers in the Enrolling service, or connected with the Nitre and Mining Bureau. All these officers are requested and those connected with this army are directed to receive and receipt for all arms and equipments, whatever their condition, and forward the same, with a duplicate receipt, to the Ordnance Department at Richmond, and report their proceedings to these headquarters. The person holding the receipt will be compensated upon presenting it to the Ordnance Bureau. While it is hoped that no one will disregard this appeal, all officers connected with this army are required, and all others are requested, to take possession of any public arms and equipments they may find in the hands of persons unwilling to surrender them to the service of the country, and to give receipts therefor. A reasonable allowance for their expenses and trouble will be made to such patriotic citizens as will collect and deliver to any of the officers above designated such arms and equipments as they may find in the hands of persons not in the service, or who will report the same to those officers. A prompt compliance with this call will greatly promote the efficiency and strength of the army, particularly of the cavalry, and render it better able to protect the homes and property of the people from outrage.

R. E. LEE,
General.

The officers receiving arms or accoutrements under this appeal are requested to state upon the face of the duplicate receipts given by them the condition of the articles, whether in good order or otherwise; and if not in good order, the per centage which should be deducted on that account.

These receipts may be presented for payment to any one of the following named officers:

Capt J M Stevens, Richmond Arsenal, Richmond
Major B Randolph Stanton, Va
Major E S Hutter, Danville, Va
Capt G S Gatty, Lynchburg, Va
Capt Chas Semple, Wytheville, Va
Capt A G Brenizer, Salisbury, N C

By order of J GORGAS,
Brig General Cheif of Ordnance.

Official: J W HINSDALE, A A G.

⁂ State papers copy 3 times Feb 14-d&w3t

COUNTY TRUSTEES.

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE C. B. WILDER, a candidate for the office of County Trustee. If elected he pledges himself to discharge the duties of the office faithfully. Feb [illegible]

Confederate copy, daily, till day; Standard [illegible] till day.

THE CLOSING OF THE PORTS

WILL PROBABLY SOON COMPEL ME TO raise the price of the "Southern Hepatic Pill," the best family medicine in the Confederacy. *Now is the time for families and dealers to supply themselves.*

Until further notice I will send by mail prepaid one box for $5, a dozen for $50. Druggists and other dealers can buy by the quantity at $450 a gross, the purchaser paying freight. *These prices are [illegible] very low.* I will be glad to sell at old rates *for specie*, namely, 25 cents a box $2 50 a dozen, $20 a gross. Cash must accompany all orders. Address

GEORGE W DREMS,

Feb 16-d6t* Goldsboro, or Raleigh, N. C.

NEGRO AUCTION

WILL BE SOLD, AT OUR SALESROOMS, ON Tuesday, 21st, at 12 o'clock, 30 likely NEGROES, consisting of Men, Women, Boys, Girls, and children. These Negroes are all likely and sold for no fault.

—ALSO—

4 No 1 Brood Sows, 7 fine Shoats, 1 Hog

W F ASKEW & CO.

Feb 16-5t

WE ARE AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE CAPT. L. E. HIGGAN as a candidate for the office of County Trustee, at the next February Term for Wake County Court. If elected he pledges himself to a faithful discharge of his duties. (Jan 27 d3-&w4t*)

COUNTY TRUSTEE.

WE ARE REQUESTED TO ANNOUNCE MR. J. F. HUTCHINS as a candidate for re-election as County Trustee, at the approaching February Term of Wake County Court. Feb 8-td

SELECT SCHOOL.

MISS MOLLIE W. FINCH.

At the residence of Mr Wm H Finch Feb 2-tf

DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

SATURDAY, FEB. 18, 1865.

WATCH FOR THE CROSS MARK.

To save our subscribers the trouble of making enquiries by letter, we shall hereafter make a cross mark on the margin of the paper when the time paid for is about to expire, and unless promptly renewed the paper will be stopped. Watch for the cross mark and send the money to renew in time.

RATES FOR SUBSCRIPTION AND ADVERTISING.

[illegible]

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

Daily Progress, six months.............$40 00
" " [illegible]............[illegible]
" " [illegible]............[illegible]
Weekly Progress, [illegible]............[illegible]
" " six months............[illegible]

ADVERTISING RATES.

All advertisements per square, of eight lines of solid minion type, or less, $5 00 for every insertion.

The Conference at Hampton Roads.

We publish in this issue, from the Northern papers, the full particulars of the recent conference in Hampton Roads, as given to the world by Lincoln and Seward. From their statements it will be seen that, while Mr. Davis says he sent his commissioners to demand the recognition of the *independence* of the Confederacy, Mr. Lincoln says they neither expressed a willingness to restore the Union, or made any demands as to independence and recognition: they only plead for a postponement of operations, an armistice, to see what could be done. The more we study the accounts given of the affair, by both sides, the more farcical the whole thing seems, and the more confirmed are our convictions that Mr. Davis and Mr. Lincoln can never make peace. If it be left in their hands peace will never come short of the subjugation of one of the parties by the other; and that can only be averted by the action of the States. We may have another campaign, another and another, the work of death and ruin may go on for one, two or three years longer, and yet peace will be as distant as ever if the settlement be left to the two functionaries at the head of the two governments; for neither of them will yield as long as their subjects will assist them in keeping up the conflict.

If Mr. Davis' demand was what he says it was—unconditional recognition—he would not have had any hope or expectation that it would be acceded to; for with so much of our territory in their possession, the advantages of the past year, and the present situation of military affairs, it could not be expected that the Federal government would be the first power to recognize our independence. When it was announced that the conference was to take place, many of our people had hopes of an early peace, but these hopes were not based, in most instances, upon the basis of our independence, but upon a liberal reconstruction of the old government, by which the seceded States could go back as equals, under the Constitution as it was before Lincoln went into office, with all their rights, including property in slaves, guaranteed and respected; and had our commissioners been authorized to have proposed a settlement on these terms, we yet believe it could have been effected. But on the contrary, when they presented Mr. Davis's ultimatum of unconditional recognition, Mr. Lincoln demanded unconditional submission and the abolition of slavery; and there the conference ended, and so the matter stands. Neither of them yielded the hundredth part of a hair. We do not want to judge uncharitably, but the whole attempt at negotiation, on our side, seems very much to us like an effort to stifle the popular clamor for peace, and to get up an excitement in favor of the prosecution of the war and pave the way for freeing and arming the slaves.—Others may do as they choose, but as for us, we were for peace before this farce was enacted, and we are for peace now.

We lay the details, as made out by the other side, before our readers, and they must form their own conclusions.

South Carolina.

There were many rumors afloat yesterday, but they all lacked confirmation. We received no Columbia or Charleston papers by the mail, but passengers from Charlotte said that fighting was going on at or near Columbia on Thursday—that two advances on the city had been handsomely repulsed, &c. Later in the day it was reported that the enemy were in possession of Columbia. These are all rumors, however, and we hope the telegraph may clear up the conflicting statements before we go to press.

We learn that there is much excitement at Charlotte and that some of the citizens are leaving that place. If they want food and shelter they had better remain where they are.

The Confederate Senate, on yesterday, passed a bill abolishing the Conscript Bureau and the office of commander of conscripts, and turning the whole business of conscription over to the commanders of reserves in the several States.—*Dispatch 15th.*

If this law shall be enforced in good faith it will break up many a bombproof, and uncloak any amount of corruption, for there can be no doubt but there has been a great deal of fraud and bribery in this "Conscript Department." Break them up and send them all to the field, for in most instances their arrogance, ignorance and vanity is disgusting in the extreme.

NORTHERN NEWS.

THE CONFERENCE IN HAMPTON ROADS.

[illegible] Congress, sent in a report of the facts relative to his recent interview in Hampton Roads, with Messrs Stephens, Hunter and Campbell. It fills three or four columns in closely printed type, and is chiefly filled up with business telegrams—the real report of the interview being contained in Seward's circular to the United States ministers abroad. We give the report, cutting out some of the dry telegrams about the admission into Grant's lines of the three Confederates:

To the Honorable the House of Representatives:

In response to your resolution of the 8th instant, requesting information in relation to a conference recently held in Hampton roads, I have the honor to state, that on the day of the date I gave Francis P. Blair, Sr., a card, written on as follows, to wit: "Allow the bearer, F. P. Blair, Sr., to pass our lines, go South and return.

"December 28, 1864. A. Lincoln."

That at the time I was informed that Mr. Blair sought the card as a means of getting to Richmond, Virginia, but he was given no authority to speak or act for the Government, nor was I informed of anything he would say or do on his own account or otherwise. Afterwards, Mr. Blair told me that he had been to Richmond, and had seen Mr. Jefferson Davis, and he (Mr. Blair) at the same time left with me a manuscript letter as follows, to wit:

Richmond, January 12, 1865.

F. P. Blair, Esq.:

Sir: I have deemed it proper, and probably desirable to you, to give you in this form the substance of the remarks made by me, to be repeated by you to President Lincoln, &c.

I have no disposition to find obstacles in forms, and am willing now, as heretofore, to enter into negotiations for the restoration of peace. I am ready to send a commission whenever I have reason to suppose it will be received, or to receive a commission if the United States Government shall choose to send one; that, notwithstanding the rejection of our former offers, I would, if you could promise that a commissioner, minister or other agent would be received, appoint one immediately, and renew the effort to enter into a conference, with a view to secure peace to the two countries. Yours, &c.,

(Signed,) Jefferson Davis.

Afterwards, and with a view that it should be shown to Mr. Davis, I wrote, and delivered to Mr. Blair, a letter as follows, to wit:

Washington, January 18, 1865.

F. P. Blair, Esq.:

Sir: You having shown me Mr. Davis's letter to you of the 12th instant, you may say to him that I have constantly been, am now, and shall continue ready to receive any agent whom he or any other influential person now resisting the national authority may informally send me, with the view of securing peace to the people of our common country. Yours, &c., A. Lincoln.

Afterwards Mr. Blair dictated for and authorized me to make an entry on the back of my retained copy of the letter last above recited, which entry is as follows:

"January 28, 1865.—To day Mr. Blair tells me that on the 21st instant he delivered to Mr. Davis the original of which the within is a copy, and left it with him; that at the time of delivering it Mr. Davis read it over twice in Mr. Blair's presence, at the close of which he (Mr. Blair) remarked that the part about our common country related to the part of Mr. Davis's letter about the two countries, to which Mr. Davis replied that he so understood it. A. Lincoln."

[Then follows a telegram from General Ord announcing that the Confederate commissioners have arrived in front of the Yankee lines and that they would like to go through by 10 o'clock the next morning.]

It appears that about the time of placing the foregoing telegram in my hands the Secretary of War dispatched General Ord as follows, to wit:

War Department, Washington City,
Jan. 29, 1865, 10 P M.

Major General Ord:

This Department has no knowledge of any understanding by Gen. Grant to allow any person to come within his lines as commissioner of any sort. You will, therefore, allow no one to come into your lines under such character or profession until you receive the President's instructions, to whom your telegram will be sent for his directions. Edwin M. Stanton, Sec. of War.

Sent in cipher at 2 A M, 30th.

Afterwards, by my directions, the Secretary of War telegraphed General Ord as follows:

War Department, Washington, D C,
January 30, 1865, 10 A M.

Maj Gen E O C Ord, Head'qrs Army of the James:

By direction of the President you are instructed to inform the three gentlemen—Messrs Stephens, Hunter and Campbell—that a messenger will be dispatched to them at or near where they now are, without unnecessary delay. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War.

Afterwards I prepared and put into the hands of Major Thomas T. Eckert, the following instructions and message:

Executive Mansion,
Washington, Jan. 30, 1865.

Maj T T Eckert—

Sir: You will proceed with the documents placed in your hands, and on reaching General Ord, will deliver him the letter addressed to him by the Secretary of War. Then by General Ord's assistance, procure an interview with Messrs Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, or any of them, deliver to him or them the paper on which your own letter is written. Note on the copy which you retain the time of its delivery and to whom delivered.—Receive their answer in writing, waiting a reasonable time for it, and which, if it contains their decision to come through without further condition, will be your warrant to ask Gen Ord to pass them through, as directed in the letter of the Secretary of War to him. If by their answer they decline to come, or propose other terms, do not have them passed through. And this being your whole duty, return and report to me.

Yours, truly, A. Lincoln.

Messrs A H Stephens, J A Campbell and R M T Hunter:

Gentlemen: I am instructed by the President of the United States to place this paper in your hands, with the information that if you pass through the United States military lines it will be understood that you do so for the purpose of an informal conference on the basis of that letter, a copy of which is on the reverse side of this sheet, and that if you choose to pass on such understanding, and so notify me in writing, I will procure the Commanding General to pass you through the lines and to Fortress Monroe, under such military precautions as he may deem prudent, and at which place you will be met in due time by some person or persons for the purpose of such informal conference, and further that you shall have protection, safe conduct, and safe return, in all events.

Thomas T. Eckert,
Major and A D C.

City Point, Va., Feb. 1, 1865.

Afterwards, but before Major Eckert had departed, the following dispatch was received from Gen. Grant:

Office U S Military Telegraph,
War Department.

The following telegram received at Washington, Jan. 31, 1865, from City Point, Va., 10.30 A M.

January 31, 1865.

His Excellency Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States—

The following communication was received here last evening:

Petersburg, Va., Jan. 30, 1865.

Lieutenant General U S Grant, commanding the Armies of the United States—

Sir: We desire to pass your lines under safe conduct, and to proceed to Washington to hold conference with President Lincoln upon the subject of the existing war, and with a view of ascertaining upon what terms it may be terminated in pursuance of the course indicated by him in his letter to Mr. Blair of January 18, 1865, of which we presume you have a copy, and if not, we wish to see you in person, if convenient, and to confer with you on the subject.

Very respectfully, yours,
Alexander H. Stephens,
J. A. Campbell,
R. M. T. Hunter.

I have sent directions to receive these gentlemen, and expect to have them at my quarters this evening, awaiting your instructions. U. S. Grant,
Lieut. Gen. Com'g Armies U. S.

This message, it will be perceived, transferred Gen. Ord's agency in the matter to Gen. Grant. I resolved, however, to send Major Eckert forward with this message, and accordingly telegraphed General Grant as follows:

Executive Mansion,
Washington, Jan 31, 1865.

Lieut Gen Grant, City Point, Va.—

A messenger is coming to you on the business contained in your dispatch. Detain the gentlemen in comfortable quarters until he arrives, and then act upon the message he brings, as far as applicable, it having been made up to pass through Gen. Ord's hands, and when the gentlemen were supposed to be beyond our lines.

A. Lincoln.

[Sent in cipher at 1.30 P M.]

When Major Eckert departed, he bore with him a letter of the Secretary of War to Gen. Grant, as follows:

War Department, Washington, D. C.,
Jan. 30, 1865.

Lieut Gen Grant, Commanding, &c:

General: The President desires that you will please procure for the bearer, Maj Thomas T. Eckert, an interview with Messrs Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, and if on his return to you, he requests it, pass them through our lines to Fortress Monroe by such route and under such military precautions as you may deem prudent, giving them protection and comfortable quarters while there, and that you let none of this have any effect upon your movements or plans.

By order of the President.
E. M. Stanton, Sec. of War.

Supposing the proper point to be then reached, I dispatched the Secretary of State, with the following instruction, Major Eckert, however, going ahead of him:

Executive Mansion,
Washington, Jan. 31, 1865.

Hon. W H Seward, Sec. of State—

You will proceed to Fortress Monroe, Va., there to meet and informally confer with Messrs Stephens, Hunter, and Campbell, on the basis of my letter to F P Blair, Esq., of January 18, 1865, a copy of which you have.—You will make known to them that three things are indispensable, to wit:

First. The restoration of the national authority throughout all the States.

Second. No receding by the Executive of the United States on the slavery question from the position assumed thereon in the late annual message to Congress and in preceding documents.

Third. No cessation of hostilities short of an end of the war and the disbanding of all the forces hostile to the government. You will inform them that all propositions of theirs not inconsistent with the above will be considered and passed upon in a spirit of sincere liberality. You will hear all they may choose to say, and report it to me. You will not assume to definitely consummate anything.

Yours, &c., A. Lincoln.

On the day of its date the following telegram was sent to Gen. Grant:

War Department, Washington, D. C.,
February 1, 1865.

Lieut Gen Grant, City Point, Va—

Let nothing which is transpiring change, hinder or delay your military movements or plans. A. Lincoln.

[Sent in cipher at 9.30 A. M.]

Afterwards the following dispatch was received from Gen. Grant:

Office U. S. Military Telegraph, War Department, (in cipher.) The following telegram received at Washington, 2.30 P M., Feb. 1, 1865:

City Point, Feb. 1, 1865, 12.30 P. M.

His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States—

Your dispatch received. There will be no armistice in consequence of the presence of Mr. Stephens and others within our lines. The troops are kept in readiness to move at the shortest notice, if occasion should justify it.

U. S. Grant, Lieut. Gen.

To notify Major Eckert that the Secretary of State would be at Fortress Monroe, and to put them in communication, the following dispatch was sent:

War Department, Washington, D. C.
February 1, 1865.

Maj T T Eckert, care Gen Grant, City Point, Va—

Call at Fortress Monroe, and put yourself under direction of Mr. Seward, whom you will find there.

A. Lincoln.

On the morning of the 2d instant, the following telegrams were received by me respectively from the Secretary of State and Major Eckert:

Fort Monroe, Virginia,
Feb. 1, 1865, 11:30, P. M.

The President of the United States—

I arrived at 10 o'clock this evening. Richmond party not here. I remain here. W. H. Seward.

City Point, Virginia,
February, 1, 1865—10 P. M.

His Excellency, Abraham Lincoln,
President of the United States:

I have the honor to report the delivery of your communication and my letter at 4.15 this afternoon, to which I received a reply at 6 P. M., but not satisfactory.

At 8 P. M., the following note, addressed to General Grant, was received:

City Point, Virginia, February 1, 1865.

To Lieut. Gen. Grant:

Sir: We desire to go to Washington city to confer informally with the President personally in reference to the matters mentioned in his letter to Mr. Blair of the 18th January, ult. Without any personal compromise on any question in the letter, we have the permission to do so from the authorities in Richmond.

Very respectfully, yours,
Alex. H. Stephens,
R. M. T. Hunter,
J. A. Campbell.

At 9.30 P. M., I notified them that they could not proceed further unless they complied with the terms expressed in my letter. The point of meeting designated in the above note ought not, in my opinion, to be insisted upon. I think Fort Monroe would be acceptable. Having complied with my instructions, I will return to Washington to-morrow, unless otherwise ordered.

Thomas T. Eckert,
Major, &c.

On reading this dispatch of Major Eckert, I was about to recall him and the Secretary of State, when the following telegram from General Grant to the Secretary of War was shown me:

Office United States Military Telegraph, War Department.—[In cipher.]—The following telegram was received at Washington at 4.35 A. M., February 2, 1865, from City Point, Virginia:

February 1, 1865, 10.30 P. M.

Hon. Edwin M. Stanton, Secretary of War:

Now that the interview between Major Eckert, under his written instructions, and Mr. Stephens and party, has ended, I will state confidentially, but not officially, to become a matter of record, that I am convinced, upon conversation with Messrs. Stephens and Hunter, that their intentions are good and their desire sincere to restore peace and Union. I have not felt myself at liberty to express any views of my own or to account for my reticence.

This has placed me in an awkward position, which I could have avoided by not seeing them in the first instance. I now fear their going back without any expression from any one in authority will have a bad influence; at the same time I recognize the difficulties in the way of receiving these informal commissioners at this time, and do not know what to recommend. I am sorry, however, Mr. Lincoln cannot have an interview with the two named in this dispatch, if not all three now within our lines. Their letter to me was all that the President's instructions contemplated to secure their safe conduct, if they had used the same language to Major Eckert.

U. S. Grant, Lieut. General.

The dispatch of General Grant changed my purpose, and accordingly, I telegraphed him and the Secretary of State respectively as follows:

War Department, Washington, D C,
February 2, 1865.

Lieutenant-General Grant, City Point, Virginia:

Say to the gentlemen that I will meet them personally at Fortress Monroe, as soon as I can get there.

A. Lincoln.

(Sent in cipher at 9 A M.)

War Department, Washington, D C,
February 2, 1865.

Hon William H Seward, Fortress Monroe, Virginia:

Induced by a dispatch from General Grant, I join you at Fortress Monroe as soon as I can come.

A. Lincoln.

(Sent in cipher at 9 A M.)

Before starting the following dispatch was shown me. I proceeded nevertheless:

Office United States Military Telegraph, War Department.—[Cipher.]—The following telegram was received at Washington, February 2, 1865: From City Point, Virginia, 9 A M, February 2, 1865. Hon. William H Seward, Secretary of State, Fortress Monroe, (copy to Hon. Edward M Stanton, Secretary of War, Washington D C)—The gentlemen here have accepted the proposed terms, and will leave for Fortress Monroe at 9; 30 A M.

U S Grant,
Lieutenant-General.

On the night of the 2d I reached Hampton Roads and found the Secretary of State and Major Eckert on the steamer anchored off the shore, and learned of them that the Richmond gentlemen were on another steamer, also anchored off shore, in the roads, and that the Secretary of State had not yet seen or communicated with them. I ascertained that Maj Eckert had literally complied with his instructions, and I saw, for the first time, the answer of the Richmond gentlemen to him, which, in his dispatch to me of the 1st, he characterizes as not satisfactory. That answer is as follows, to wit:

City Point, Virginia, February, 1, 1865.

Thomas T Eckert, Major and A. D C:

Major: Your note, delivered by yourself this day, has been considered. In reply we have to say that we were furnished with a copy of the letter of President Lincoln to Francis P. Blair, Esq., of the 18th of January ultimo, another copy of which is appended to your note. Our instructions are contained in a letter of which the following is a copy:

"Richmond, January 28, 1865.

"In conformity with the letter of Mr. Lincoln, of which the foregoing is a copy, you are to proceed to Washington city for informal conference with him upon the issues involved in the existing war, and for the purpose of securing peace to the two countries. With great respect, your ob't serv't, Jefferson Davis."

The substantial object to be obtained by the informal conference is to ascertain upon what terms the existing war can be terminated honorably. Our instructions contemplate a personal interview between President Lincoln and ourselves at Washington, but with this explanation, we are ready to meet any person or persons that President Lincoln may appoint, at such place as he may designate. Our earnest desire is that a just and honorable peace may be agreed upon, and we are prepared to receive or to submit propositions which may possibly lead to the attainment of that end.

Very respectfully yours,
Alex. H. Stephens,
R. M. T. Hunter,
John A. Campbell.

A note of these gentlemen, subsequently addressed to General Grant, has already been given in Major Eckert's dispatch of the 1st instant.

I also here saw, for the first time, the following note, addressed by the Richmond gentlemen to Mr. Eckert:

City Point, Virginia, Feb. 2, 1865.

Thomas T. Eckert, Major and Aid-de-Camp:

Major: In reply to your verbal statement that your instructions did not allow you to alter the conditions upon which a passport could be given to us, we say that we are willing to proceed to Fortress Monroe, and there to have an informal conference with any person or persons that President Lincoln may appoint, on the basis of his letter to F P Blair of the 18th of January, ultimo, or upon any other terms or conditions that he may hereafter propose, not inconsistent with the essential principles of self government and popular rights upon which our constitutions are founded. It is our earnest wish to ascertain, after a free interchange of ideas and information, upon what principles and terms, if any, a just and honorable peace can be established without the further effusion of blood; and to contribute our utmost efforts to accomplish such a result, we think it better to add that, in accepting your passports, we are not to be understood as committing ourselves to anything but to carry to this informal conference the views and feelings above expressed.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.,
Alex. H. Stephens,
J. A. Campbell,
R. M. T. Hunter.

Note.—The above communication was delivered to me at Fortress Monroe, at 4.30 P. M., Feb. 2, by Lieut. Col. Babcock, of General Grant's staff.

Thomas T. Eckert,
Major and Aide-de-Camp.

On the morning of February 3, the three gentlemen, Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, came aboard our steamer and had an interview with the Secretary of State and myself of several hours' duration. No question of preliminaries to the meeting was then and there made or mentioned. No other person was present. No papers were exchanged or produced, and it was in advance agreed that the conversation was to be informal and verbal merely. On our part, the whole substance of the instructions to the Secretary of State hereinbefore recited was stated and insisted upon, and nothing was said inconsistent therewith; while by the other party it was not said that in any event or on any condition they ever would consent to re-union, and yet they equally omitted to declare that they would not consent. They seemed to desire a postponement of that question and the adoption of some other course first, which, as some of them seemed to argue, might or might not lead to re-union, but which course we thought would amount to an indefinite postponement. The conference ended without result.

The foregoing, containing, as is believed, all the information sought, is respectfully submitted.

Abraham Lincoln.

Executive Mansion, February 10, 1865.

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTS.

Washington, Feb. 10.—The following was inclosed in the message sent to the Senate:

To the President:

The Secretary of State, to whom was referred a resolution of the Senate of the 8th instant, requesting the President of the United States, if in his opinion not incompatible with the public interests, to furnish to the Senate any information in his possession concerning recent conversations or communications with certain rebels, said to have occurred under Executive sanction, including communications with the rebel Jefferson Davis, and any correspondence relating thereto, has the honor to report that the Senate may be properly referred to a special message of the President bearing upon the resolution and transmitted to the House this day.

Appended to the report is a copy of an instruction which has been addressed to Charles Francis Adams, Esq., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at London, and which is the only correspondence found in this Department touching the subject referred to in the resolution.

Respectfully submitted. Wm. H. Seward.

Department of State, Washington, Feb. 10, 1865.

[*Mr. Seward to Mr. Adams.*]

Department of State,
Washington, February 7, 1865.

It is a truism that in times of peace there are always instigators of war. So soon as a war begins there are citizens who impatiently demand negotiations of peace. The advocates of war, after an agitation longer or shorter, generally gain their fearful end, though the war declared is not unfrequently unnecessary and unwise. So peace agitators in time of war ultimately bring about an abandonment of conflict, sometimes without securing the advantages which were originally expected from the conflict.

The agitators for war in time of peace and for peace in time of war are not necessarily or perhaps ordinarily unpatriotic in their purposes or motives. Results alone determine whether they are wise or unwise. The treaty of peace concluded at Guadaloupe-Hidalgo was secured by an irregular negotiation under the ban of the Government. Some of the efforts which have been made to bring about negotiations, with a view to end our civil war, are known to the whole world, because they have employed foreign as well as domestic agents. Others with whom you have had to deal confidentially, are known to yourself, although they have not publicly transpired. Other efforts have occurred here which are known only to the persons actually moving in them and to this Government. I am now to give, for your information, an account of an affair of the same general character, which recently received much attention here, and which will doubtless excite inquiry abroad.

A few days ago, Francis P. Blair, Esq., of Maryland, obtained from the President a simple leave to pass through our military lines without definite views known to the Government. Mr. Blair visited Richmond, and, on his return, he showed to the President a letter which Jefferson Davis had written to Mr. Blair, in which Mr. Davis wrote that Mr. Blair was at liberty to say to President Lincoln that Mr. Davis was now, as he always had been, willing to send commissioners, if assured they would be received, or to receive any that should be sent; that he was not disposed to find obstacles in forms. He would send commissioners to confer with the President with a view to the restoration of peace between the two countries if he could be assured that they would be received.

The President, therefore, on the 18th day of January, addressed a note to Mr. Blair, in which the President, after acknowledging that he had read the note of Mr. Davis, said that he was and always should be willing to receive any agent that Mr. Davis, or any other influential person now actually resisting the authority of the Government, might send to confer informally with the President, with a view to the restoration of peace to the people of our common country.

Mr. Blair visited Richmond with this letter, and then again came back to Washington. On the 29th instant we were advised from the camp of Lieutenant General Grant that Alexander H. Stephens, R. M. T. Hunter and John A. Campbell were applying for leave to pass through the lines to Washington, as peace commissioners, to confer with the President. They were permitted by the Lieutenant General to come to his headquarters, to await there the decision of the President. Major Eckert was sent down to meet the party from Richmond at General Grant's headquarters. The Major was directed to deliver to them a copy of the President's letter to Mr. Blair, with a note to be addressed to them and signed by the Major, in which they were directly informed that they should be allowed to pass our lines. They would be understood as coming for an informal conference upon the basis of the afore-named letter of the 18th of January to Mr. Blair.

If they should express their assent to this condition in writing, then Major Eckert was directed to give them safe conduct to Fortress Monroe, where a person coming from the President would meet them. It being thought probable, from a report of their conversation with Lieu General Grant, that the Richmond party would, in manner prescribed, accept the condition mentioned, Secretary of State was charged by the President wi the duty of representing this Government in the expect informal conference. The Secretary arrived at Fortr Monroe in the night of the 1st day of February. Maj Eckert met him on the morning of the 2d of Februar with the information that the persons who had com from Richmond, had not accepted in writing the cond tion upon which he was allowed to give them conduct Fortress Monroe. The Major had given the same i formation by telegraph to the President at Washingto On receiving this information the President prepared telegram directing the secretary to return to Washin ton.

The Secretary was preparing, at the same moment, so return, without waiting for instruction from t President. But at this juncture Lieutenant Grant te graphed to the Secretary of War, as well as to the Se retary of State, that the party from Richmond had considered and accepted the condition tendered the through Major Eckert, and General Grant urgently a vised the President to confer in person with the Ric mond party. Under these circumstances the Secretar by the President's direction, remained at Fortress Mo roe, and the President joined him there on the night the 2d of February.

The Richmond party was brought down the Jam River in a United States steam transport during the da and the transport was anchored in Hampton Roads the morning of the 3d. The President, attended by th Secretary, received Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Cam bell on board the United States steam transport Riv Queen in Hampton Roads.

The conference was altogether informal. There w no attendance of secretaries, clerks or witnesses. Not ing was written or read. The conversation, althoug earnest and free, was calm, and courteous and kind on bo sides. The Richmond party approached the discussi rather indirectly, and at no time did they make categ rical demands, or tender formal stipulations or absolu refusals; nevertheless, during the conference, whi lasted four hours, the several points at issue between t Government and the insurgents were distinctly rais and discussed fully, intelligently, and in an amicab spirit. What the insurgent party seemed chiefly to fav was a postponement of the question of separation up which the war was waged, and a mutual direction of t efforts of the Government as well as those of the insu gents, to some extraneous policy or scheme for a seaso during which passions might be expected to subside, a the armies be reduced, and trade and intercourse b tween the people of both sections be resumed.

It was suggested by them that through such postpon ment we might now have immediate peace, with som not very certain prospect of an ultimate satisfactor adjustment of political relations between the Governme and the States, section or people now engaged in confli with it. The suggestion, though deliberately considere was nevertheless regarded by the President as one armistice or truce, and he announced that we can agr to no cessation or suspension of hostilities except on th basis of the disbandment of the insurgent forces an the restoration of the national authority throughout a the States in the Union collectively, and in subordinati to the proposition which was thus announced.

The anti-slavery policy of the United States was r viewed in all its bearings, and the President announce that he must not be expected to depart from the positio he had heretofore assumed in his proclamation of ema cipation and other documents, as these positions, we reiterated in his annual message.

It was further declared by the President that the com plete restoration of the national authority everywhe was an indispensible condition of any assent on our pa to whatever form of peace that might be proposed.— The President assured the other party that while he mu adhere to these positions he would be prepared, so fa as power was lodged with the Executive, to exercise li erality. Its power, however, is limited by the Constit tion, and when peace should be made Congress must n cessarily act in regard to appropriations of money and the admission of representatives from the insurrection ry States.

The Richmond party were then informed that Congre had on the 31st ultimo adopted, by a constitutional ma jority, a joint resolution submitting to the several Sta the proposition to abolish slavery throughout the Unio and that there is every reason to expect that it will soo be accepted by three-fourths of the States, so as to b come a part of the national law.

The conference came to an end by mutual acquiescenc without producing an agreement of views upon the seve al matters discussed, or any of them. Nevertheless, it i perhaps of some importance that we have been able t submit our opinions and views directly to prominent i surgents, and to hear them in answer, in a courteous an not unfriendly manner.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
Wm. H. Seward.

THE RECEPTION OF THE COMMUNICATION IN THE YANKEE CO GRESS.

The reading of this message arrested the profound a tention of the House and a large audience in the gall ries. When the clerk read that part of Mr. Linco phraseology in which he uses the words "two countries" "the common country," etc, there were cries from th Republican members of "Good! good!" accompanie by applause. The instructions to Mr. Seward also el cited evidences of approbation.

Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, said he believed this me sage would meet the approbation of the entire peopl and in view of its importance he moved that twent thousand copies of the message be printed.

Mr. Brooks said he did not think the message woul meet with the cordial approbation of the people. As h understood the document, and the report which comes t us from the rebel papers, two things are evident: Firs that Mr. Lincoln demanded of the rebels unqualified su mission; second, that the President would enter into negotiations with either the rebel Government or a single rebel State. Mr. Lincoln is silent on this poin but it is positively asserted by Davis and the rebel agent If the President had desired peace sincerely he shoul have brushed away the cobwebs, and come at once to th point with Stephens. As the matter now stands, the en must be by resort to the sword. He referred to the chee of the soldiers when the peace commissioners pass through the lines as showing the spirit of the soldie and the people in favor of peace. It required no inco siderable courage on the part of Mr. Lincoln to thro off the importunate radicals here and meet the reb agents; for this the President deserves credit, and he h my thanks for holding the conference. It was what desired and asked of him in December last, but whic was not received on the other side of the House with a probation. But I regret that in this conference Mr. Li coln did not act upon his own responsibility, and ask other terms than submission to the constitution. should have availed himself of this opportunity. Lincoln or Davis could now make peace with the turb lent elements now aroused—no peace-maker now but th sword. May God preserve us from this arbitrament; bu it now seems there is no other. North Carolina an Georgia are in a condition to make peace if their sove eignty can be preserved. The elements of peace are al in Alabama. I regret that Mr. Lincoln has closed th door against these States. Mr. Brooks referred to th concessions once made successfully to South Carolina t avert civil war. Such are the precedents that shoul have governed Mr. Lincoln. The speaker was in fav of an armistice—some day or other this war must en and prior to that there must be an armistice. He regre ted that Mr. Lincoln had not availed himself of the o portunity recently offered, as he (Mr. Brooks) did n doubt that peace would have followed. If again the ba tle is waged there is no hope of peace short of subjug tion of one or the other of the parties.

Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania: I can see no epithe sufficiently expressive of condemnation of such a speec If the President had agreed upon an armistice upon th basis of a separation of States, he would have deserv to be impeached by this House and convicted by the ot er. For his (the speaker's) part he believed one oth of the two alternatives must come—the rebels must l down their arms or be exterminated. He did not belie that peace would be restored in six or twelve months there would be war for a year or two. The conquer must make terms. The South will be conquered, a slavery will not be allowed hereafter. Three-fourths the States will ratify the amendment to the Constitutio and no State can then come back with slavery.

Mr. Cox (Democrat) of Ohio expressed his gratific tion that the negotiation had taken place, because he b lieved that if it was followed up it would end in peace an Union. He was sorry that the gentleman from Pennsy vania should have given emphasis to the remark that th rebels stood up simply upon their independence. Gener Grant, himself, says the intention of the commissione was good, and that they had a desire to restore peace a Union. If peace is not secured on that basis, the fau will be at the door of the radical pressure.

If Vice President Stephens can make it co venient to do so, would it not be well for hi make an effort to *rally* the people of South Car lina before entering upon his canvass of Ge gia? If the half we hear of panic and "spasm among the people of our sister State, be true they need rallying. And the work must be don soon, for, according to their own papers, many o them—able-bodied men as well as non-comba tants—are rallying out of the State.